which supplied substandard Iaproscopes to the various hospitals and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether CBI had also conducted raids at the premises of certain officials/doctors and if so, the details of the incriminating documents seized as a result thereof; and

(c) whether these officers have since been chargesheeted and if not, the reasons therefor and by when they are likely to be chargesheeted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI); (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. As the case is under investigation, the details of recoveries/ serizures made during the searches are not made available by CBI.

(c) As the case is still under investigation by CBI, no departmental action has been initiated.

Satellite Interlinking to combat diseases in Orissa

3748. Ms. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to combat communicable diseases through satellites by interlinking cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far will this help to address the medical crisis in rural areas, especially in the backward regions of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Indian Space Research Organization have agreed to utilize EDUSAT for establishing satellite linkage connecting all districts and major medical institutions throughout the country including the State of Orissa under Integrated Diseases Surveillance Project (IDSP). 800 Satellite Interactive Terminals would be installed under the programme

by year 2007. This satellite linkage under SDSP would be utilized for transference of information for occurrence of various communicable diseases to the State Surveillance Units and National Institute of Communicable Diseases; for telecommunication for sending messages and feedback and for distance training and education programmes of various personnel involved in disease surveillance as well as various health programmes under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

It is expected that the satellite linkage with the districts and medical institutions would result in early gathering of information on occurrence of diseases and quicker intervention for dealing with them, especially in the remote areas.

Deficiency of Staff in CGHS Ayurvedic Dispensary

3749. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2031 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th March, 2006 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of clerk is lying vacant in the Ayurvedic Dispensary of North Avenue for past many months, because the clerk of the dispensary was transferred without providing any substitute;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of beneficiaries of this dispensary is much more than the number of beneficiaries of any allopathic dispensary and the present staff strength is not adequate enough for the smooth functioning of the ayurvedic dispensary; and

(c) if so, what action Government would propose to take to fill the vacancies so that there is no adverse impact on the working of the said dispensary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Government has taken **a** decision regarding optimisation of staff strength in various organisations. Only 1/3rd of the non-technical vacant posts are permitted to be filled up by direct recruitment.

Due to large number of vacancies of Group "C" & "D" staff in CGHS Delhi the vacant post of one clerk in Ayurvedic Dispensary, North Avenue could not be filled up. However this vacancy has not affected the working of the Dispensary

(b) No Sir. Average daily visits by the CGHS beneficiary in Ayurvedic Dispensary North Avenue are about 46, whereas that of Kali Bari Dispensary, where LDC was transferred is about 332.